GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1559
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2017
Target for Construction of Highways
Chavan Shri Ashok Shankarrao;Devi Smt. Veena;Gupta Shri Sudheer;Hari Shri G.;Kirtikar Shri Gajanan Chandrakant;Mahato Shri Bidyut Baran;Patil Shri Shivaji Adhalrao;Radhakrishnan Shri T.;Raut Shri Vinayak Bhaurao;S.R. Shri Vijay Kumar;Shewale Shri Rahul Ramesh;Shinde Dr. Shrikant Eknath;Shrirang Shri Chandu Barne;Singh Shri Kunwar Haribansh;Singh Shri Sunil Kumar;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the targets fixed for constructions of highways during the year 2016;

(b) whether the said target has been achieved by the Government and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of share and amount of the fuel cess received during the year 2016 and the measures taken to achieve the target fixed by the Government for fuel cess realisation during the current year;

(d) whether there are many complaints about using inferior quality material for construction ignoring the road safety norms and inferior quality toll services in constructing National Highways by the concerned agencies and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether there is a proposal under consideration of the Government to set up a national level monitoring cell to check and watch on the national and State agencies relating to construction of National Highways and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a) to (b) The target of construction of National Highways is 15000 km, of which 6604 km have been completed till Feb in the current financial year 2016-17. The slow speed of construction of National Highways(NHs) are mainly due to land acquisition, utility shifting, non-availability of Soil/Aggregates, Poor performance of contractors, Environment/ Forest/Wildlife Clearance, ROB & RUB issue with Railways, Public agitation for additional facilities, Arbitration/contractual disputes with contractors etc.

(c) The cess on petrol and High Speed Diesel (HSD) is collected as per the provision of the Central Road Fund (CRF) Act, 2000 amended by the Finance Act from time to time. The Ministry of Finance is the Nodal Ministry concerned with collection of the cess and earmarking the Annual Allocation to the comcerned Ministries as per the provision of the above mentioned Acts. The share of fuel cess earmarked for National Highways (NHs) during 2016-17(RE) is Rs 30209 Crore.

(d) There is a well-established mechanism for monitoring / testing of quality of construction /development of work of National Highways (NHs) by engaging a Consultancy firm of International/National repute for every project to ensure quality construction. They supervise / monitor / conduct tests as per procedures laid down in various codes published by Indian Road Congress, manuals & MoRT&H specifications for Road and Bridge works and National Highway Authority India Quality Manuals etc;. Apart from this, field units and Quality Division of Ministry/NHAI/State PWD also conduct inspection at various project sites regularly to monitor the quality of work. Quality Auditors are also engaged from time to time for conducting Quality Audits of the project work. On observation of any violation, action against the defaulter is taken as per provision in the agreement.

(e) Ministry has empaneled National Level Project Monitors for monitoring of critical/languishing National Highways projects all over the country.

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